

# CLASSIC JOURNEYS

THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS



## Andalucia

Seville to Cordoba





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*Classic Journeys  
provides unbeatable  
access to experiences  
around the globe.”*

TRAVEL + LEISURE

## The Best of Southern Spain

If you've ever seen the movie *El Cid*, you know that the Moors invaded Iberia then the Spanish chased them out. Of course, that took almost 800 years—and in the process created Europe's richest and most fascinating culture. Seville is the suavest of cities. The Alhambra? The way water in all its variety is used to cool air that whispers through beautiful stone fretwork is unimaginable. The vastness of la vega, the province's plain, is truly cinematic, scattered with whitewashed villages, punctuated by ruined alcazars (fortresses), and carpeted in vineyards, swatches of gnarled olive trees and stately groves of poplar. We stay in fantastic accommodations and at one of Spain's finest 5-star hotels. And the walks—in both city and country, through mosques and Spanish palaces—are gentle revelations every step of the way. Our local guides are exceptionally well-connected, so you get introductions to families that own the olive groves and even Alhambra's resident wood inlay expert.

DAY 1 »

## Seville

- Stroll through the enchanting Santa Cruz district, admiring tranquil courtyards filled with flowers.
- Explore the Alcázar's intricate blend of Arabic geometric designs and Spanish architectural influences.

Meet in Seville for an afternoon exploration of one of our favorite European cities, on foot at eye level. The cultural capital of southern Spain, this vibrant city hosted world expositions in 1929 and 1992. The first provided Seville with several of its classic buildings with beautiful architecture. The second led the city to refurbish its incredible collection of monuments and connect it to Madrid by way of high-speed AVE trains.

Begin with a walk with your guide through the Santa Cruz district, famous for its tranquil, secluded courtyards filled with flowers, trees and fountains. The American writer Washington Irving lived in one of the mansions, which commanded some of the most expensive real estate prices in Europe. Make your way past city hall, Triana market and along the quaint streets filled with bustling cafes and shops.

After a stop in Plaza de los Venerables for a cool drink at the little restaurant where Don Juan regaled his friends with his tales of conquest, continue on to the Alcázar. You'd guess it was built by the Arabs during their reign, but the Alcázar was actually erected after the Spanish Catholics conquered the Moors. Explore the public and private rooms, marveling at the intricate blend of Arabic geometric designs with Spanish influences.

Continue your walk along The Plaza de Espana, hearing your guide's insightful stories along the way. Enjoy a very Spanish rest before your dinner at an excellent local restaurant with regional dishes to savor.

MEALS: D

OVERNIGHT: SEVILLE

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 2 »

## Seville / Ronda

- Walk along the Guadalquivir River, soaking in scenic views and vibrant riverside life.
- Participate in a hands-on Andalusian cooking class, then savor your freshly prepared traditional paella.

After breakfast, you're off for a delightful walk along the Guadalquivir River. The path is easy and level, perfect for letting you soak in the scenic surroundings. Follow the footpath as villages peek through the branches, and the Benaolán Sierras soar in the distance. You'll soon arrive at the lively Triana Market, discovering local products to use in learning how to make traditional Andalusian dishes, together with your local guide and friends. Then roll up your sleeves for an 'only with Classic Journeys' cooking instruction with a local chef. Together you'll create traditional dishes and then dine on your delicious paella... salud!

Satiated from lunch, stretch your legs on a stroll from Ronda to Finca Descalzos Viejos, a wine estate surrounded by three parks. The site has a surprising array of microclimates that suit grapes from Syrah and Grenache to Merlot and Chardonnay. That makes for interesting variety when our friends at the winery invite you for a tasting. Sip and sample in the wine cellar, which is housed in a former 16th-century convent.

MEALS: B, L

OVERNIGHT: RONDA

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 3 »

## Ronda / Sierra De Las Nieves

- Cross Ronda's dramatic New Bridge for breathtaking views of the gorge and surrounding valleys.
- Wander cobbled medieval streets, learning about centuries-old palaces, homes, and churches with your guide.

Fortified from breakfast, you'll drive to Province Malaga to visit the Los Pueblos Blancos, the dazzling whitewashed villages that sparkle in the sun on the mountainsides. Then head towards Ronda, one of Andalusia's most dramatic and romantic towns. (Hemingway said that Ronda would be "the perfect place to...spend a honeymoon.")

First, take the New Bridge (finished in 1793) across the 300-foot-deep gorge. The views of the perched city and the valley full of fruit trees, olive groves and vineyards are truly breathtaking. On an easy path flanked by almond trees, meander down to the foot of the city where you'll meet our local guide Carmen. She leads you up the cobbled streets to re-enter the city as medieval visitors would have. Many of the palaces, homes and churches are a treasury of buildings dating to the 13th century, and you'll learn about them as you go.

Your evening continues with a live guitar concert of traditional music that you won't soon forget.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: RONDA

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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DAY 4 »

## El Torcal Natural Park

- Hike through El Torcal's fantastical limestone formations, spotting unique rock spires and native wildlife.
- Ascend to Iznájar Castle for panoramic lake views before continuing to your hotel in Granada.

This morning, you're off to nearby El Torcal Natural Park. On arrival, enjoy a walk through one of the most fantastical landscapes of stone in all of Europe. Thousands of years of erosion have carved the limestone into fascinating rock fins and spires and pillars of pink and silver. A rich mix of plant life sprouts from crevices in the stone walls—like a rock garden gone mad. El Torcal is also on a major migratory route for birds, and you'll have a good chance of spotting many species, such as the Imperial Eagle and the peregrine falcon.

After the wilds of the park, pause for lunch in the charming town of Antequera. Stretch your legs on walk up to Iznájar Castle, with views of the surrounding lake, before making your way to your perfectly-sited hotel in Granada for the evening.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: GRANADA

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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DAY 5 »

## Granada

- Tour Granada's Alhambra, marveling at ornate palaces, lush gardens, and Moorish architectural masterpieces.
- Wander the Albaicín's twisting cobblestone streets, enjoying spectacular Alhambra views and Moorish courtyards.

Today you're off to Granada, the last outpost of the former Moorish kingdom. Built on three hills at the foot of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Granada was a cultural center during the Moorish occupation (711-1492) and the Renaissance. With your local guide Rosa, explore the magnificent 13th-century Alhambra. Constructed as the Moorish king's idea of paradise on Earth, it makes wonderful use of space, light and water. Following the fortress and palace, cross the medina and gardens to the Generalife, the ancient summer palace of the Nasrid kings. The palace is located on the Cerro del Sol, and the terraces of the palace provide incredible views of the city and the distant vega (plain). Passing through the medina, visit the workshop where our host's family has engaged in the art of inlaid woodworking for over 300 years.

Walk downhill and along the river to the cathedral and Plaza Nueva, where you'll have some free time for lunch and a visit through the alcazeria, a former silk market similar to the souks in Morocco. Following lunch, you can walk up the hill to the Albaicín, the old Muslim quarter of Granada. Built on a steep slope, the district faces the Alhambra to give you a spectacular view. Stroll through the twisting, cobblestone streets, whitewashed houses and carmenes—villas with flowered courtyards and patios, some with undeniable Moorish decoration and architecture.

This evening, get the opportunity to see a remarkable first-class flamenco performance that will keep you on the edge of your seat.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: GRANADA

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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DAY 6 »

## Córdoba

- Walk through olive groves to a historic mill, learning about olive oil production and tasting fresh oils.
- Follow your guide through Córdoba's labyrinthine flower-filled streets, soaking up lively plazas and local culture.

Enjoy a final country breakfast, then sit back for a scenic drive through silvery green olive groves. En route, enjoy an 'only with Classic Journeys' visit and walk in the olive groves to a historic mill. Here you'll learn about the olive oil process, from harvesting the olives to production of their award-winning oils. Be prepared for a sampling of fruity, grassy flavors unlike anything you've tasted before.

Córdoba is a lively contrast to the countryside of the morning and you'll follow your guide's lead through the labyrinth of flower-bedecked streets. Admire the architecture and soak up the sun in the lively plazas as well. After, you'll have some time this afternoon to lounge or do a little shopping on your own.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: CÓRDOBA

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

## DAY 7 »

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### Córdoba

- Explore the Mezquita's forest of columns and dazzling red and white striped horseshoe arches with your guide.
- Stroll the cobblestone streets of Córdoba's old quarter, reflecting on your Andalusian journey before departure.

Today join our local guide, Ana, for a guided tour of the Mezquita (mosque) that is now the city's cathedral. Built between the 8th and 10th centuries, this is one of the earliest and most beautiful examples of Spanish Muslim architecture. Inside, more than 850 columns of granite, jasper and marble support the roof, and beyond the columns are red and white striped horseshoe arches for a dazzling display. Stroll through the patio, which is filled with orange trees as you make your way around the grounds.

Later in the morning, explore the cobblestone streets of the old quarter before parting company midday.

MEALS: B

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART



## Tour Hotels



### [Legado Alcázar](#)

Built within the historical complex of the Reales Alcázares Palace, this four-star boutique luxury hotel rests upon important Moorish, late medieval and contemporary archeological remains and assures an unforgettable stay in Seville's city center.

NIGHTS: 1 nights



### [Catalonia Ronda](#)

The hotel, newly opened in 2017, features a unique and beautiful Spanish modernist façade, an elegant rooftop terrace with outstanding views, and is located just opposite the iconic bullring on the town's main pedestrian shopping street.

NIGHTS: 2 nights



### [La Bobadilla Hotel](#)

La Bobadilla is in the style of a typical Andalusian village to greet its visitors and transmit an authentic luxury experience, surrounded by the amazing scenery of the Sierra de Loja mountain range, between Granada and the Costa del Sol.

NIGHTS: 2 nights



### [Hotel Amistad](#)

Boasting an ideal location in the historic heart of Córdoba, close to shops and sites, the hotel is made up of two 18th century palaces and traditional courtyards completely restored with modern touches and historic views from every room.

NIGHTS: 1 nights

# Curated Walks

**CONNECT. ON FOOT. AT EYE LEVEL.**

Join us to walk the most cinematic footpaths in a region. With thoughtfully curated walks that are about so much more than just counting miles. Yes, it's likely that your Fitbit or Apple watch will buzz when you hit your step count. But you probably won't notice because your soul will be buzzing from the connections you make with the people and place. Each day, we'll offer you one or two walks. Each walk is generally between an hour or two in duration. And our support vehicles are often nearby and add to your flexibility. Choose one or both to curate the right amount of walking for you each day. It's why Forbes magazine calls our tours their 'Luxury Walking Favorite'.

**CURATE YOUR OWN MILEAGE OPTIONS EACH DAY**

	MINIMUM	AVERAGE	MAXIMUM
Day 1	1	2	3.5
Day 2	2.5	3	4
Day 3	3.5	5.5	7
Day 4	2	2	2.5
Day 5	2.5	3.5	4
Day 6	3.5	4	5
Day 7	0.5	0.5	0.5

\*No scheduled walks

**ROUTE NOTES**

The terrain on this trip includes a mix of paved and cobblestone streets in Seville, Ronda, Granada, Cordoba and the mountain villages of Los Pueblos Blancos, as well as well-maintained countryside trails, vineyard, olive grove and shepherds' paths of compressed dirt and stone. The footpaths offer a selection of level, rolling and hilly terrain with some elevation gain and loss.

**THE ART OF THE UNPLANNED:  
CRAFTING UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS**

We've carefully crafted each day's walking adventures with our expert local guides. Your daily itinerary serves as a well-thought-out plan, and we empower our tour leaders to adapt to unexpected opportunities or challenges. Whether it's an impromptu local invitation or a weather-related change, we're adept at making adjustments. So, while your experience may closely follow the itinerary, it might also include some variations. In essence, we invite you to "expect the unexpected" – knowing that our promise is to provide you the most genuine and authentic walking tours in the world.

## Arrival & Departure

### → ARRIVAL DETAILS

LOCATION: Legado Alcazar  
CITY: Seville, Spain  
TIME: 2:00 PM

### → DEPARTURE DETAILS

LOCATION: Lobby of Hotel Amistad  
CITY: Córdoba, Spain  
TIME: 12:00 PM

## The Classic Journeys Difference

- ▶ **CURATED WALKS THAT LEAD TO 'ONLY WITH CLASSIC JOURNEYS' EXPERIENCES**
  - Immerse and connect you across cultures as you explore on foot
- ▶ **EXCEPTIONAL LOCAL GUIDES**
  - Bring authentic experiences to life
- ▶ **ENCHANTING ACCOMMODATIONS**
  - Where luxury and local mean you feel at home
- ▶ **EAT LIKE (& WITH) THE LOCALS**
  - Local flavors and time to savor the moments together
- ▶ **SMALL GROUPS, GUARANTEED**
  - Mean deeper, richer experiences while making friends along the way
- ▶ **REGENERATIVE TRAVEL**
  - We take strides to preserve cultures, traditions, and nature

## What's Included

- Accommodations for 6 nights
- All breakfasts, 1 lunch (cooking instruction) and 5 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip, handle behind-the-scenes logistics and are there to help with anything
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

### ▶ PERFECT PAIRINGS DINNERS

A special dinner prepared by one of our favorite chefs with a procession of wines tailored to each course.

### ▶ PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

### ▶ WINE ON US

In many regions, we uncork wonderful local wines at every dinner on us.

### ▶ INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately.

## Enhancing Your Journey

We're constantly seeking ways to improve your experience. Count on us to update you with any significant changes before departure. Minor adjustments may be communicated by your guides during the trip to ensure you have the best possible journey.